

INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE ACQUISITION
OF FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS

Minutes

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Meeting of 15 February 1944

PRESENT:

Office of Strategic Services	Mr. Read
Navy Department	Comm. Riheldaffer
Treasury Department	Mr. Southworth
War Department	Col. Hale
Office of War Information	Dr. Krould
Foreign Economic Administration	Mr. Leisinger
Department of State	Dr. Spaulding
Library of Congress	Mr. Moriarty ✓
Department of Agriculture	Mr. Shaw
Interdepartmental Committee	Mr. Fairbank
	Miss Reynolds
	M/Sgt. Clift
	Ens. Kilgour

Executive Secretary

Ensign Kilgour presided.

The minutes of the Meeting of 1 February 1944 were approved as distributed.

The chair announced that Carruthers is now in London where he will be in charge of IDC activities as well as coordinate the acquisition of publications through Stockholm, London, and Lisbon.

Miss Reynolds brought up for discussion the titles of books which four or more Agencies had requested for deposit. The Committee determined which titles should be routed and which should be photostated.

The chair reported that the Far Eastern Advisory Group had met on 9 February 1944. The Agencies represented were Commerce, FEA, Library of Congress, MID, ONI, OSS, and OI. This Group recommended to the Committee that an Outpost be established in Kwilin and that IDC make an effort to gain access to the Guerrilla Areas in China. The advisability of Kates going to Sian was also discussed. The Group also determined what Japanese periodicals already acquired should be indexed first, and each member promised to send the chair a list of ten Japanese titles that would be most important to his Agency. In general the Advisory Group was satisfied with the coverage of publications from Free China and desired that acquisition from Japan and Occupied Areas be emphasized.

The problem of gaining access to the northern Guerrilla Areas was discussed and the Committee decided that Mr. Fairbank and Ensign Kilgour should draft a letter to the Commander in Chief requesting him

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to obtain permission from the Chinese Government for the Committee to send a Representative into such areas to obtain publications. This draft would be presented for consideration at the next meeting.

The suggestion that a Microfilming Station be set up at Kweilin was discussed briefly. Mr. Shaw moved that an Outpost be established at Kweilin. Lt. Col. Hale seconded the motion. The question was put to vote and unanimously approved.

There was some debate on the possibility of acquiring publications in Sian. Lt. Col. Hale moved that Mr. Kates be instructed to go to Sian at the first opportunity to investigate the availability of publications with particular reference to materials from Shanghai, Peiping, and the Northern Guerilla Areas. Mr. Moriarty seconded the motion. The question was put to vote and unanimously approved.

Mr. Southworth reported that the Treasury Department is most anxious to obtain the Official Journal of the Japanese Military Occupation Authority in the Philippines, number 5 and later.